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Fifty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 96 (b)
Sectoral policy questions: industrial development cooperation

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Garfield Barnwell (Guyana), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.25

Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1993-2002)

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits, the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s[2] and its resolutions 54/203 of 25 January 2000, 55/187 of 20 December 2000 and 55/216 of 21 December 2000,

Also recalling Economic and Social Council decision 1999/270 of 28 July 1999 concerning the implementation and coordinated follow-up by the United Nations system of initiatives on African development and the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2001 of the Economic and Social Council, on the role of the United Nations system in supporting the efforts of African countries to achieve sustainable development, adopted on 18 July 2001,[3]

Taking note of the Plan of Action for the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization, adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Industry at its thirteenth meeting, held at Accra in May 1997,[4] the Conference on Industrial Partnerships and Investment in Africa, held at Dakar on 20 and 21 October 1999, and the outcome of the Fifteenth Meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry held at Yaoundé on 29 and 30 October 2001,

Taking note of the statement of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade, held at Abuja in September 2001, to the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, and of resolution 2 (XIV) on the African common position on

[1] See resolution 55/2.
[2] General Assembly resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.
[3] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/56/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 29.
[4] See A/52/480, sect. IV.C.

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globalization, adopted by the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry, held at Dakar on 22 and 23 October 1999,[5] both of which recognize the critical need for support for African countries in addressing the supply-side constraints on their integration into the world economy,

Welcoming the New Partnership for Africa's Development, which is a pledge by African leaders, based on a common vision and a firm and shared conviction, that they have a pressing duty to eradicate poverty and to place their countries, both individually and collectively, on a path of sustainable growth and development, and at the same time to participate actively in the world economy and body politic, bearing in mind that the Partnership is anchored on the determination of Africans to extricate themselves and the continent from the malaise of underdevelopment and exclusion in a globalizing world, and in that regard urging that further steps be taken to operationalize it,

Recognizing the importance of industrialization as a key element in promoting sustained economic growth and sustainable development in Africa, and also its role in facilitating efforts for the eradication of poverty, inter alia, through the enhancement of agro-based industries, promotion of competitiveness, productive employment, capacity-building, gender mainstreaming and the empowerment of women and effective and efficient management systems,

Also recognizing the commendable efforts of African countries to engage their respective private sectors and civil society in policy dialogue at the highest levels and the need to continue such efforts to further improve the capacity of the private sector, including micro, small and medium-sized enterprises,

Further recognizing the need for African countries to continue their efforts to create a climate favourable to private sector development and foreign direct investment and also the commitment of African countries to using both human and financial resources more efficiently in the process of industrialization, and emphasizing the continuing need for the mobilization of adequate resources through domestic initiatives and international support, inter alia, through enhanced official development assistance, investment guarantees, debt relief, as appropriate, and enhanced market access,

Recognizing the opportunities for and challenges of exploiting information and communication technologies and e-commerce for the overall industrial development of Africa, and in that regard taking note of the establishment of the United Nations Information and Communication Technologies Task Force,

Welcoming the progress made in the consolidation and programmatic reform of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, including through the instrument of integrated programmes to promote sustainable industrial development in African countries, and its approach to field activities through joint programming with the United Nations resident coordinator system in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, where they exist,

[5] See E/ECA/CAMI.14/99/10, annex IV.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1993-2002);[6]

2. *Notes with concern* that despite the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, which ends in 2002, little progress has been made in the overall industrialization of the continent and in some countries industrialization has regressed, and in that regard reaffirms the need for continued domestic and international efforts for Africa's industrialization;

3. *Reaffirms* the need for the African countries that have yet to do so to integrate the objectives of the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization, as appropriate, into their national plans for the establishment of institutional capacity for monitoring programmes and related projects;

4. *Emphasizes* the need for support for the implementation of the sectoral priorities in the New Partnership for Africa's Development on diversification of African production and exports, specifically with regard to promotion of the manufacturing sector, and agro-based industries, and for enhancing productive capacities and enabling African countries to participate more effectively in global trade;

5. *Underlines* the need for national Governments to improve the regulatory and policy environment in which micro, small and medium-scale enterprises operate, inter alia, to facilitate their access to credit and improving transport, energy and communication infrastructure in order to foster their economic performance and competitiveness, and in that regard invites development partners to provide the appropriate technical assistance;

6. *Invites* the Economic Commission for Africa to work in cooperation with the Information and Communication Technologies Task Force and to play a more active role in the promotion of new information and communication technologies and e-commerce;

7. *Also invites* the Economic Commission for Africa to play a more active role in the development of African micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and industries, in coordination with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and other United Nations bodies concerned with the development of such enterprises, with particular attention to women-owned enterprises and women entrepreneurs;

8. *Invites* the international community, the World Bank, the United Nations funds and programmes, the African Development Bank and other relevant regional institutions, in accordance with their respective mandates, to give full effect to the relevant provisions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development by supporting the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa and the Plan of Action for the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization,[4] including the outcome of the Conference on Industrial Partnerships and Investment in Africa and the outcome of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry;

[6] A/56/139.

9. *Appeals* to the international community, the World Bank, the African Development Bank and United Nations funds and programmes, in accordance with their respective mandates, to support the efforts of the African countries to intensify and expand industrial cooperation among themselves;

10. *Commends* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization for its work related to the provision of technical assistance to African countries, in particular the least developed among them, so as to enhance their capacity to overcome technical barriers to trade in industrial and other products, including improving quality standards to alleviate supply-side constraints, and to promote industrial competitiveness, and calls upon the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue to work closely with the World Trade Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other relevant multilateral institutions in the provision of technical assistance to African countries, in order to enable them to integrate fully into the world economy;

11. *Also calls upon* the international community to support Africa in strengthening its private sector through, in particular, the promotion of investment and exports, the promotion and creation of small and medium-sized enterprise, increased productivity, improved quality assurance and standardization, and financing, and welcomes in that context the Trade Facilitation Initiatives of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization;

12. *Further calls upon* the international community to support the efforts of Africa to enhance the development of their human resources in the fields of health, basic education, and vocational and technical training through, inter alia, South-South cooperation utilizing triangular arrangements;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to complete a review of the implementation of the programme for the Decade, including identification of lessons learned, before the end of the fifty-sixth General Assembly, with a view to including the outcome of such review in the overall review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s[2] and the ongoing processes under the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the establishment of the African Union;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session under the agenda item "United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa", the item entitled "Implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa";

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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Fifty-sixth session
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Agenda item 97 (b)
Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: human resources development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Garfield Barnwell (Guyana), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.24

Human resources development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 45/191 of 21 December 1990, 46/143 of 17 December 1991, 48/205 of 21 December 1993, 50/105 of 20 December 1995, 52/196 of 18 December 1997 and 54/211 of 22 December 1999, as well as the relevant sections of the Agenda for Development,[1]

Reaffirming also the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by heads of State and Government in September 2002,[2]

Recalling Economic and Social Council decision 2001/299 of 19 July 2001, by which it adopted "The contribution of human resources development, including in the areas of health and education, to the process of development" as the theme for the high-level segment of its substantive session of 2002,

Recognizing that human beings are at the centre of concern in sustainable development,

Stressing that Governments have the primary responsibility for defining and implementing appropriate policies for human resources development and that there is a need for continued support from the international community to complement the efforts of developing countries,

Stressing also that there is a need for an enabling national and international environment that will enhance human resources development in developing countries and promote sustained economic growth and sustainable development,

[1] Resolution 51/240, annex.
[2] See resolution 55/2.

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Stressing further that health and education are at the core of human resources development, and the need to ensure that by 2015 children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and that girls and boys will have equal access to all levels of education, as expressed at the World Education Forum, held at Dakar in April 2000, and in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

Emphasizing that human resources development should be an essential component of international development cooperation and that there is a need to promote continuous training and capacity-building within projects and programmes as a means of advancing such development,

Recognizing that there is a need to integrate human resources development into comprehensive strategies that mainstream a gender perspective, taking into account the needs of all people, in particular the needs of women and girls,

Recognizing also the vital role of South-South cooperation in supporting national efforts at human resources development,

Expressing concern at the increasing development gap between developed and developing countries, including the gap in knowledge, information and communication technologies, and the increasing disparity of income in and among nations and its adverse impact on the development of human resources, in particular in the developing countries,

Stressing that developing countries should be assisted in their efforts to develop capacity in and to be well equipped with the knowledge of information technology that would enable them to benefit from the opportunities offered by globalization and to avoid the risk of marginalization in the process of globalization,

Expressing deep concern at the devastating impact of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, especially in sub-Saharan Africa, and of other major diseases on human resources development, in particular in developing countries,

Emphasizing the continued need for coordination and integration among the organs and organizations of the United Nations system in assisting developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, to foster the development of their human resources, especially that of the most vulnerable groups, and for the United Nations to continue to give priority to human resources development in developing countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[3]

2. *Recognizes* the importance of developing human resources as a means, inter alia, of promoting economic growth and eradicating poverty as well as of participating more effectively in the world economic system and of benefiting from globalization;

3. *Urges* increased investments by all countries, the United Nations system, international organizations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society in all aspects of human development, such as health, nutrition, education, training and further capacity-building, in order to achieve sustainable development and the well-being of all;

[3] A/56/162.

4. *Encourages* all countries to accord priority to human resources development in the context of the adoption of national economic and social policies, including their financing, taking into account their financial constraints;

5. *Urges* the adoption of comprehensive approaches to human resources development which combine, among other factors, economic growth, poverty eradication, provision of basic social services, sustainable livelihoods, empowerment of women, involvement of young people, the needs of vulnerable groups of society, the needs of local indigenous communities, political freedom, popular participation and respect for human rights, justice and equity, all of which are essential for enhancing human capacity to meet the challenge of development;

6. *Encourages* all countries to ensure local and community-level engagement in policy issues of human resources development;

7. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure the full participation of women in the formulation and implementation of national and local policies to promote human resources development;

8. *Recognizes* the need to direct concerted efforts at enhancing the technical skills and know-how of people living in rural and agricultural areas, with a view to improving their means of livelihood and material well-being, and in this regard encourages the allocation of more resources for this purpose so as to facilitate access to appropriate technology and know-how from within and from other countries, in particular the developed countries, as well as through South-South cooperation;

9. *Encourages* the adoption of policies, approaches and measures that serve to narrow the increasing gap between developed and developing countries in information and communication technologies in particular and in technology in general, including by:

(a) Encouraging the private sector, in collaboration with the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, to donate voluntarily to designated centres in developing countries literary materials, information and communication technology equipment and training which, together with the enabling policies and institutions both at the national and international levels, will facilitate improved access;

(b) Taking advantage of the rapid turnaround in both the educational institutions and corporations in developed countries of literary material and information and communication technology equipment, through coordinated efforts involving the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations and recipients or interested developing countries;

(c) Promoting transparent, efficient regulatory regimes and other policies that encourage investment;

(d) Supporting targeted investments in infrastructure that would establish the physical foundation for the operation of Internet services and pave the way for commercial and development applications;

(e) Developing training in information technologies for users such as non-governmental organizations, universities and business service organizations, as well as key governmental agencies;

10. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to harmonize further its collective human resources development efforts, in accordance with national policies and priorities;

11. *Encourages* the United Nations system to take a comprehensive view of human resources development in its initiatives, relating it to the acquisition of broader knowledge with a view to enabling human resources to respond to the new demands associated with the technology revolution and take advantage of emerging opportunities in a globalized world;

12. *Encourages also* the United Nations system to promote strategies for human resources development that facilitate access by developing countries to new information and communication technologies so as to bridge the digital divide;

13. *Encourages further* the United Nations system to focus in its cooperation activities on building human and institutional capacity, with specific attention given to women, girls and vulnerable groups;

14. *Encourages* the United Nations system to continue to engage, where appropriate, with the private sector, in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions, so as to further contribute to the building of human resources development capacity in developing countries;

15. *Invites* international organizations, including international financial institutions, to continue to give priority to supporting the objectives of human resources development and to integrating them into their policies, projects and operations;

16. *Calls upon* developed countries and the United Nations system to increase support to programmes and activities in developing countries for advancing human resources development and capacity-building, in particular those geared towards harnessing information and communication technologies;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation", the sub-item entitled "Human resources development".

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Fifty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 102
Implementation of the Habitat Agenda and outcome of the special session of the General Assembly on this topic

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Dharmansjah Djumala (Indonesia), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.39

Twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Habitat Agenda[1] and the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements[2] adopted in Istanbul in 1996,

Also recalling the report of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly, on an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), held in New York from 6 to 8 June 2001,[3]

Stressing the importance of the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,[4] which was adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth special session,

Recognizing the need for renewed political will and for the mobilization and allocation of new and additional resources at the national and international levels in order to achieve full and accelerated implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] Ibid., annex I.

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fifth Special Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/S-25/7/Rev.1).

[4] Resolution S-25/2, annex.

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Reiterating that strengthened international cooperation is an essential element for the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,

Recalling the goal contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[5] of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by the year 2020, as proposed in the "Cities without slums" initiative,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[6]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the full implementation of all commitments undertaken in the Habitat Agenda;[1]

3. *Emphasizes* the importance, at all levels of policy-making and in the context of sustainable development, of giving high priority to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,[2] including achieving the goals of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world, particularly in developing countries;

4. *Recognizes* that the overall thrust of the new strategic vision of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and its emphasis on the two global campaigns on secure tenure and urban governance are strategic points of entry for the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda, especially for guiding international cooperation on adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development;

5. *Recognizes* that Governments have the primary responsibility for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, and stresses that the international community should fully implement its commitments to support Governments of developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition in their efforts, through providing requisite means of implementation and through the creation of an international enabling environment;

6. *Requests* the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, including the specialized agencies, programmes, funds and regional commissions, as well as the World Bank and regional development banks, consistent with their respective mandates, to fully support the effective implementation at all levels of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium;

7. *Invites* local authorities and other Habitat Agenda partners to contribute to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, and encourages them to participate, as appropriate, in the Urban Forum and the Advisory Committee of Local Authorities, in their roles as advisory bodies to the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, bearing in mind the decisions of the Commission on the establishment of these two bodies;

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[5] Resolution 55/2.

[6] A/56/477.

8. *Urges* the Executive Director of the Centre to assess the role and funding of the regional programme activity centres of the Centre with a view to providing improved technical cooperation services to Governments to implement the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium at all levels;

9. *Invites* Governments and the Habitat Agenda partners, including local authorities, to facilitate the dissemination of the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium;

10. *Invites* the Executive Director of the Centre to transmit the outcomes of the relevant intergovernmental processes related to sustainable human settlements development to the preparatory processes of the International Conference on Financing for Development and of the World Summit for Sustainable Development, bearing in mind the relevant decisions of the preparatory processes of those two conferences;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session an item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.